

From: Aaron Baum

960 Natoma Street #3 San Francisco, CA 94103

To: Gionanna Colan Art Unit 2162 USPTO

Re: Office Action of March 8, 2006 regarding Application #10/662,230

In this office action claims 1-16 of the application (App. No. 10/662,230) were rejected in a non-final action as being anticipated by Eyal et al., US Patent App. Pub. No. 2004/0177096 A1, filed: January 24, 2000. This provisional application has been abandoned and incorporated by reference into US Patent #6,389,467 B1. As this is the only version of Eyal's patent available to the applicants, all references to Eyal below are to US Patent #6,389,467 B1.

The authors of the present application believe that it represents a significant innovation and an improvement on the current state of the art, including that described in Eyal. The present application describes systems and methods for making media recommendations based on user-input criteria (see claims 1 and 9). Eyal also describes, as part of a larger media serving system, means and methods for returning media references based on user-specified criteria, but the methods and means described do not take advantage of lists associating media references with each other. The compilation, storage, and analysis of expert-created lists associating media segment references (such as DJ play-lists), enables the described systems and methods to find media related to search criteria that would not have been found by the means described in Eyal (see